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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6728

BILL NUMBER: SB 296

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 21, 2012

BILL AMENDED: Feb 21, 2012

SUBJECT: Certified Scholarship Program Eligibility.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Leising

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Behning

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill provides that an individual is eligible for a scholarship from a scholarship program that is certified by the Department of Education if the student received a scholarship in a preceding school year, including a school year that does not immediately precede a school year in which the individual receives a scholarship from a scholarship granting organization.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) The bill could increase the number of students that are eligible to receive a scholarship from a scholarship-granting organization (SGO). This bill would allow a student that attended a private school the previous year to apply for an SGO scholarship if the student received an SGO scholarship in the past but not the prior year, whereas prior to this, only private school students who received an SGO scholarship the prior year could apply for these scholarships. These scholarships are privately funded.

The bill would not have an impact on Choice scholarships since this situation is already allowed under the Choice eligibility requirements in IC 20-51-1-4.5(5)(B).

Background Information: As of July 28, 2011, there were four approved school scholarship programs in the state. Under current statute, besides the residency and income requirements, students eligible for an SGO scholarship must meet at least one of the following conditions:

1. Individual is enrolling in kindergarten.
2. Individual was enrolled in a public school during the preceding school year.
3. Individual received an SGO scholarship in the previous year.

4. Individual received a school scholarship for the previous year.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See *Explanation of State Expenditures*.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: Department of Education databases.

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